

Land Conservation Efforts Support Water Quality



Thanks to educational outreach by local cities and water districts, most Southern California residents know how the chemicals they use at home can travel through storm drains to pollute the ocean. But it took more than clean living for Palos Verdes' beaches to be ranked among L.A. County's healthiest. We knew our land conservation efforts also deserved some of the credit when Heal the Bay announced their annual water quality survey results in May.

"The water quality of the Peninsula's beaches is excellent. The Conservancy's work in promoting permeable surfaces, greening and restoring our landscapes helps to soak up excess urban runoff that may otherwise pollute the ocean," said Amanda Griesbach, Heal the Bay's Beach Water Quality Scientist.

Environmental studies have shown that open space acts as a filter when storm water is washed down slope. Unlike paved surfaces, natural areas absorb runoff so that it percolates through many layers enroute from hilltops to the ocean. In addition to filtering chemicals out of storm water, this process also reduces erosion and excess runoff.

Compared with the rest of L.A. County's coastline (perhaps with the exception of Malibu beaches) the Palos Verdes Peninsula's lower-density development and abundance of open space helps keep downstream beaches clean and healthy. Development accelerates storm water flows, which carry large pollutant loads during winter storms. Urban runoff includes motor oil and debris from streets, airborne pollutants from rooftops, excess fertilizers and pesticides from gardens and lawns, and pet waste (which contributes to the ocean's high bacteria levels after heavy rains).

The Conservancy's land restoration efforts not only help increase native habitat and restore wildlife populations, but also reduce the volume and speed of storm runoff. Native plant canopies absorb and slow rainwater. Plants and organic debris allow water to seep into the soil. Roots help hold earth in place while microorganisms break down pollutants and soak up rainwater to sustain plant growth. This natural filtering process results in less pollution reaching oceans and beaches.

To continue improving water quality, we have launched habitat

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Conservancy's Adrienne Bosler Awarded TogetherGreen Fellowship

Stewardship Associate Adrienne Bosler was one of a select 40 conservation leaders from across the country awarded a 2012 Audubon TogetherGreen Fellowship. Funded by Toyota Motors, the Fellowship "invests in high-potential individuals, providing them with

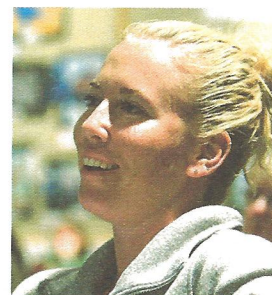
the tools, resources, visibility, and a peer network to help them lead conservation actions that will help shape a healthier environmental future."

In the fellowship program, Adrienne will mentor a leadership team of high school students with interest in environmental careers. In implementing a habitat restoration plan for the endangered Palos Verdes blue butterfly, the team will be responsible for building it into a successful community-based restoration project.

Their work will include vision planning, volunteer recruitment and coordination, monitoring, and educating the community and volunteers.

"Adrienne is an environmental hero... a leader, and we're pleased to give her a chance to invent the future," said Audubon President David Yarnold. Adrienne wants "students to feel accomplished in seeing their efforts leave a positive impact on the land and people."

Congratulations, Adrienne!



Adrienne kicked-off the Fellowship at the Conservation Leadership Institute held May 29-June 3 in Ohio

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In Honor

Your celebration and remembrance gifts create a lasting tribute to friends and loved ones by helping to protect the beauty and character of the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Remembering

Georg Babbe

given by Alison and Carlo Davis

David A. Craig

given by Carol Grace

Paul and Patty Faust

given by Sherry Faust

Sidney Gilbert

given by Kathleen Flanagan, Carol Gilbert, Margaret Halm and Margaret Smith

Bridget Heller

given by Erica Ferro, Ann Gamsgaard, George and Barbara Gleghorn, Bill and Maureen Griffin, Sharon and Quintus Guthrie, Patricia Horan, Marlys Lindenmuth, Peter and Pam Major, Phil Rundel and Judith King-Rundel, Marion Scharffenberger, Cy and Catherine Stewart, Betty Strauss, Howard and Dottie Towle, Bruce Biesman-Simons and Hale Field

Jim Joyce

given by James and Arlene Joyce

Diana Park

given by Noel Park

William Riley

given by Jan Riley

Jerry Robinson

given by Joseph and Virginia Williams

Bob Sawyer

given by Michael and Bernice Green

Mr. and Mrs. S.C. Servadei

given by Sandra Servadei London

Frances Sheridan

given by Mary Sheridan

Robert P. Wardell

given by Kay Wardell

Celebrating

Cristina Arias

given by Nigel Amstock

George Gleghorn's Birthday

given by Betty Strauss

Eileen Joyce's Birthday

given by Virginia Dunn, James and Arlene Joyce, and Tom Joyce

Harlyne Norris Birthday

given by Betty Strauss

Get well wishes for Marion Scharffenberger

given by Trudy Park

John Wessel's Birthday

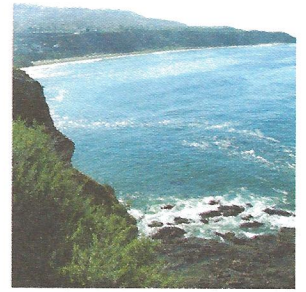
given by Francine Gelbwachs and Brenda and Michael McNamara

If you would like to make a donation in remembrance or celebration please call Mary Lopes, Donor Relations, at (310) 541-7613 x206.

Water Quality continued from cover

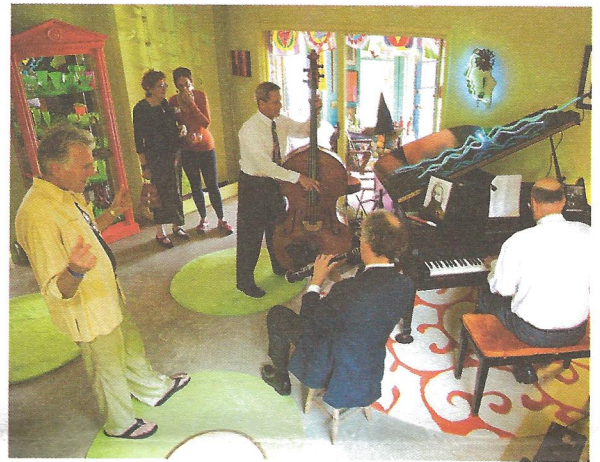
restoration projects at Fishing Access and McCarrell's Canyon. Funded by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and the Coastal Conservancy, these projects will provide wildlife habitat and reduce soil erosion and coastal runoff. The

combined efforts of our community and the Conservancy have contributed to our enviable quality of life. By protecting and restoring natural habitat, we can protect, and even further improve, the health of our coastline.



Fall in Love with the Homes of San Pedro

Mark your calendar for the 2012 Fall for White Point Home Tour, a walk through six San Pedro homes. The self-guided tour is 11-3 pm on Sunday, October 14. You'll fall in love with the range of architectural, landscaping and design styles of the unique homes that help make the San Pedro community so special.



The Marine Exchange of Southern California is our partner for this year's tour. Since 1923, this non-profit organization has helped ensure the flow of commerce with ships departing from the Port Complex—and their safe return home. Home tour participants will have the opportunity to visit the Exchange's environmentally friendly facility just around the corner from the White Point Nature Preserve.

End a great day with a lively reception at the White Point Nature Education Center, where you can relax with a glass of wine, enjoy great food, listen to live music and chat about your favorite home on the tour. You won't want to miss the bidding on the silent auction. It's chock-full of art, jewelry, vacation homes and plenty of local excursions and international destinations. It's a wonderful way to spend an enjoyable day in support of White Point and the Conservancy.

We look forward to seeing you on the tour. To purchase tickets or for more information, please visit: WWW.PVPLC.ORG. For discounts on groups purchasing six or more tickets, please call Louise Olfarnes (310) 541-7613, x210.

